

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

Emergency Certificate of Need

TO: Lyle E. Sheldon, FACHE
President/CEO
520 Upper Chesapeake Drive, Suite 405
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

April 30, 2020
Date

RE: UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center
Establishment of 61 Inpatient Beds

EM-H20-12-034
Docket No.

DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY PROJECT

This Emergency Certificate of Need authorizes University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health System (UM UCHS) Upper Chesapeake Medical Center (UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center) to establish additional temporary inpatient bed capacity consisting of 61 medical/surgical/gynecological/addictions beds, with 40 beds located in two conference rooms, six beds located in solarium rooms, and 15 beds located in the rehabilitation unit at UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center, 520 Upper Chesapeake Drive, Bel Air (Harford County) (the Site). UM UCHS states that the project has nominal costs related to bed rental expenses and that physical space changes including increased equipment “will begin as soon as appropriate.”

ORDER

Upon consideration of the request of UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center, suitably detailed information provided by the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) and others, and consultation with the Chairman of the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), Ben Steffen, MHCC Executive Director, determined that the lack of sufficient inpatient bed capacity at Maryland general hospitals resulting from COVID-19 presents a hazard to patients and/or employees, as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.20A.

Therefore, it is, on April 30, 2020, ordered by the Executive Director that an Emergency Certificate of Need issue for the project. It is further ordered that the requirement in COMAR 10.24.01.20C that UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center file an application for Certificate of Need for the inpatient beds established in this Emergency Certificate of Need is suspended by the Executive Director pursuant to COMAR 10.24.01.10A(2) until at least 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. on March 5, 2020.

Approvals by Maryland Department of Health

This Emergency Certificate of Need does not constitute a license or replace any approvals for other aspects of the project that are required by the OHCQ or other divisions of the Maryland Department of Health to operate inpatient bed capacity at the Site.

Further Action

This Emergency Certificate of Need will be considered for confirmation by the Maryland Health Care Commission at its next scheduled meeting on May 21, 2020 or at an earlier meeting of which UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center is notified. This Emergency Certificate of Need initially remains in effect for a maximum of 165 days, as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.20C, or until 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. on March 5, 2020. The Emergency CON may be extended beyond that date for good cause shown.

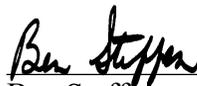
CONDITION OF EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE OF NEED

Because it is important that the Maryland Health Care Commission and the Office of Health Care Quality know when the inpatient beds approved in this Emergency Certificate of Need are available for patients, it is further

ORDERED that UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center shall advise MHCC staff and OHCQ staff when the inpatient beds become operational at the Site, disclosing: (1) the number of beds in this Emergency CON that become available for patients; and (2) the date the beds become available. The hospital shall: notify MHCC staff by sending an email with this information to ruby.potter@maryland.gov; and notify OHCQ staff of this temporary increase in its licensed bed capacity by completing OHCQ's Application for Temporary Adjustment of Hospital Beds, which is located at:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c7e6598943c84dd2ba9e39859a9f3383>.

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION



Ben Steffen
Executive Director

cc: Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health
Patricia T. Nay, M.D., Executive Director, Office of Health Care Quality
Renee Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs, Office of Health Care Quality
Katie Wunderlich, Executive Director, HSCRC
Russell Moy, M.D., Health Officer, Harford County